

REMARKS

Claims 6 to 13 are pending and being considered. It is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the indication that all certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement, PTO-1449 paper and cited reference(s).

Claims 10 and 12 were objected to for certain informalities. In this regard, claims 10 and 12 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's remarks, and the amendments are believed to be self-explanatory. Accordingly, entry and approval of these amendments, and withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 6, 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite with respect to the recited phrase "the missing binary information". While Applicants do not necessarily agree, to facilitate matters, claim 6, 10 and 12 have been amended to remove the recited phrase. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 6, 10 and 12, as presented, are clear and definite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejections is respectfully requested.

Claims 6 to 8 and 10 to 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,821,703 ("the Devore reference").

Claim 6, as presented, relates to a method for padding segments for transmitting data on a bus system, the segments having a preset total number of binary information pieces, the method including transmitting the data in the segments, and in the event of transmission of data including less binary information than a predetermined total number of the segments, padding the data to the total number of the segments by a filling pattern of a corresponding number of binary information pieces. Claim 6, as presented, provides that the filling pattern includes a number of binary information pieces that corresponds to the total number of the segments and is first written into the segment, and the binary information of the data is subsequently written into the same segment, the particular

binary information of the filling pattern being overwritten by the binary information of the data.

It is respectfully submitted that the Devore reference does not identically disclose (or even suggest) first writing a filling pattern into a segment, and then subsequently writing the binary information of the data into the same segment, such that the particular binary information of the filling pattern is overwritten by the binary information of the data, as provided for in the context of claim 6, as presented. Instead, Devore suggests to first write the data into the segment, and thereafter pad the remaining bits with all 0's. See, for example, FIGS. 9 and 11, and related text. In particular, note in FIG. 11 that the GATE PAD signal is active only after the GATE DATA signal becomes inactive.

The Devore reference only refers to a normal padding in which the missing fields are filled in. In contrast, the presently claimed subject matter concerns filling the segment with the filling pattern and then overwriting with the real data, which is wholly different.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the Devore reference does not anticipate claim 6, as presented.

Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 6, as presented, and are therefore not anticipated by the Devore reference for at least the same reasons as claim 6, as presented.

Claims 10 and 12, as presented, recite features essentially analogous to claim 6, as presented, and are therefore not anticipated by the Devore reference for at least the same reasons as claim 6, as presented.

Claims 11 and 13 depend, respectively, from claims 10 and 12, and are therefore not anticipated by the Devore reference for at least the same reasons as their respective base claims.

Withdrawal of the anticipation rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over the Devore reference in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0063583 ("the Padovani reference").

It is respectfully submitted that even if it were proper to modify the primary Devore reference as suggested by the Office Action (which is not conceded), the secondary Padovani reference does not cure the critical deficiencies of the Devore reference (as

explained above) with respect to claim 6, from which claim 9 depends. Accordingly, claim 9 is patentable for at least same reasons as claim 6, as presented, since the Padovani reference does not cure the critical deficiencies of the Devore reference. Withdrawal of this rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

In sum, claims 6 to 13 are allowable.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the objection and rejections have been obviated, and that pending and considered claims are therefore allowable. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn, and that the present application issue as early as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

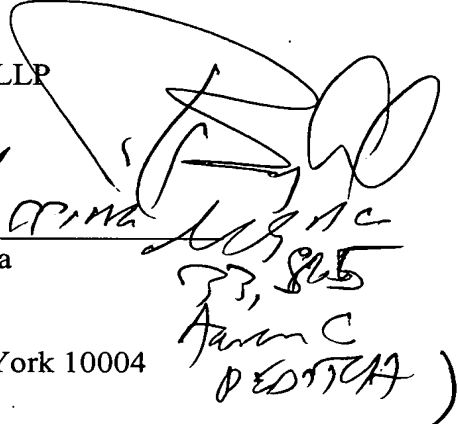
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